

St Martin of Tours  
Epsom

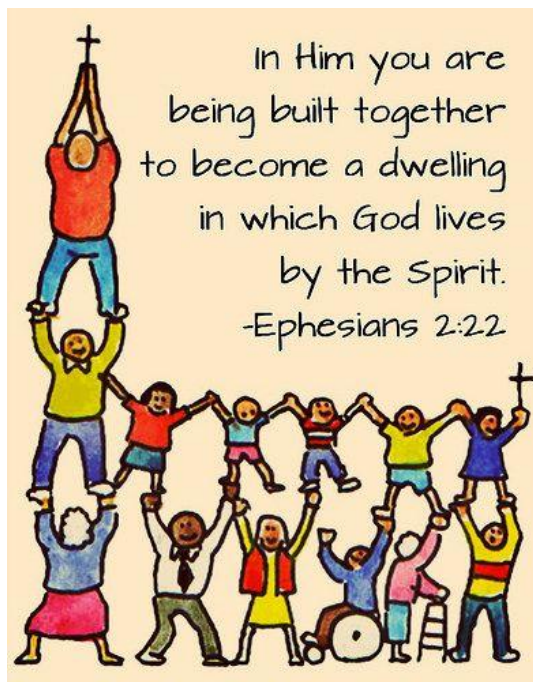
St Stephen on the Downs  
Langley Vale

Registered Charity Number: 1134149

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**SUNDAY 27<sup>th</sup> JULY 2025**

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Trinity



In Him you are  
being built together  
to become a dwelling  
in which God lives  
by the Spirit.  
-Ephesians 2:22

## DIARY

### Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July

- 9.30am Morning Prayer at Langley Vale Village Hall
- 10.00am Morning Prayer and Baptism at St Martin's  
*(in Church and live streamed)*
- 6.30pm Holy Communion at St Martin's

### Tuesday July 29<sup>th</sup> at

- 4.00pm Take Time to Talk – Lammas / Lughnasadh  
(tea and biscuits from 3.45pm in church)

Lammas, also known as Loaf Mass Day, is a Christian holiday celebrated in some English-speaking countries in the Northern Hemisphere on 1 August. The name originates from the word "loaf" in reference to bread and "Mass" in reference to the Eucharist.

**Lynne**

### Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July

- 10.00am Holy Communion

### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August

- 9.30am Morning Prayer at Langley Vale Village Hall
- 10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's  
*(in Church and live streamed)*
- 6.30pm Evening Prayer at St Martin's

## **Contemplative Prayer Group**

The Group meets in the Lady Chapel in St Martin's on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> August at 11 am. Anyone is very welcome who would like an hour or so of quiet meditation and silence. Our starting point will be Isaiah 27.2,5: *'A pleasant vineyard .... let it make peace with me'*.

## **Second Thoughts – Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm**

**Refreshments from 6pm**

**David Stamp - 'A career at Reuters news agency'**

What is a news agency, and how does it differ from - but work with - the news media we're more familiar with such as newspapers, TV and radio?

Reuters has a 170-year history which began - with the help of some carrier pigeons - by conveying stock market prices. The news came later after Baron Reuter, a German, set up shop in London. And a competitive business it was, with Reuters news agency scoring a scoop with the first news in Britain of Abraham Lincoln's assassination.

Reuters has worked through wars and peace, good economic times and crises, guarding its reputation for balanced reporting and freedom from state influence. In the 1980s it boomed by supplying news and data to financial markets, as well as traditional media.

Now it is adapting to a rapidly changing world where sifting truth from untruth is harder than ever. Journalists face a host of new ethical questions to add to those they have always grappled with.

How do reporters ensure balance in their work, how do they protect their sources of information from threatening governments and other powerful forces, and how do they protect themselves when working in war zones?

Biographical note:

David joined Reuters as a trainee journalist in 1981 and worked for the company for 37 years before retiring. Among the places he was posted to were Hong Kong, New Zealand, Vienna, Prague and Amsterdam.

He covered events including the dying days of communism in central and Eastern Europe, the end of the war in Bosnia, chaos in Egypt after the fall of Hosni Mubarak, and the Greek economic crisis. Interviews included with Kofi Annan, Chris Patten and Robert Mugabe.

## **VJ DAY 80<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SERVICE**

We are hosting a special service on Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, at 11am, followed by a reception in the hall. Members of our choir will join members of the Epsom Choral Society to sing. The speaker will be our local MP. A 2-minute silence will be observed and wreaths laid. All are welcome to mark this important anniversary of the cessation of hostilities in the second world war.

## SAVE THE DATE

**Sunday 21 September 3pm**

We are delighted to welcome Christina Peake to talk at our fourth annual Brathwaite lecture about her experience as a transdisciplinary artist and our plans for creating a new memorial at St Martin's to commemorate those who were enslaved on the island of Barbados.



***Revd Judith***

# ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH RESTORATION AND EXTENSION

## St Stephen's Needs You!



**St Stephen's is under scaffolding and closed - but not for long. We're on a mission to bring it back better than ever, and we need your help!**

Alongside essential repairs, we're upgrading the church to serve our community for the next 60+ years with:

- Step-free access via the Village Hall car park
- An accessible toilet
- Kitchen facilities for events and gatherings

Let's reopen St Stephen's as a space for everyone - please support the project today.

**The work will cost £125,000 -  
Can you help us to achieve this?**



Donations have already begun to come in towards the cost of our plans for this much loved building in Langley Vale. We are very grateful to all those in the village who are getting behind this project with enthusiasm.

**Scan the QR code or visit [www.stmartinsepsom.org/ststephens](http://www.stmartinsepsom.org/ststephens) to make a donation**



If you have any questions please email Rob Jeffery, Chair of the Fabric Committee - [rob@stmartinsepsom.org](mailto:rob@stmartinsepsom.org) or phone the Parish Office which is open every weekday morning - 01372 722567

## STEWARDSHIP – MAKING YOUR DONATION

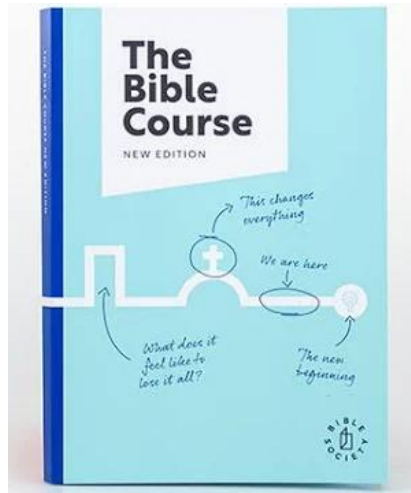
For general and stewardship giving you can give online via the Charities Aid Foundation. Donations can be either a one-off donation or a regular donation using direct debit. To make a donation either:

1. Click on the following link:  
<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/13377>  
OR
2. Use your smart phone and scan the QR code below:



# THE BIBLE COURSE

Explore God's big story one step at a time



Starting Thursday 3 July, 7.30 pm in the Wisley Room in Church House, over eight sessions we will be following the Bible Society's new edition of *The Bible Course* in a relaxed small group.

Using a unique Storyline, *The Bible Course* illustrates how all the books, characters and events in the Bible are part of God's big story, from Genesis to Revelation.

Please let me know if you are able to come along.

**[revjudith@stmartinsepsom.org](mailto:revjudith@stmartinsepsom.org)**





## **PRAYER GROUPS**

**St Martin's offers these options for praying together:**

### **Evening Prayer on Zoom, weekdays 5pm-5.30pm**

This follows the Common Worship rite and is led by one of the regular members of the group.

See <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

All are warmly invited to join on an occasional or regular basis. Find us at:

<https://zoom.us/j/91650281049?pwd=dLiB4jY8FRRdtFcbGBRjaVtMJ9K2Ar.1> or, if you prefer typing details directly into

Zoom, use Meeting ID is 916 5028 1049 and passcode 960460. There is an additional zoom prayer session on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 8pm.

### **Centering Prayer: Every other Tuesday, 4pm in Church (Tea & biscuits from 3.45pm)**

"Be still and know that I am God" *Psalms 46:10*. A small group of us meet to pray together in silence. We begin with something to reflect on - perhaps a biblical passage or Psalm. After our 20 minutes of silence, we might share something that we have noticed during our time together. Next meeting: Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July.

### **Contemplative Prayer: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month, 11am in the Lady Chapel**

A time for focussing on God's presence and allowing oneself to be filled with God's grace. It's a time of stillness and quietness. We listen to the words of God or of Jesus in contemplation.

## **PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY**

Please remember in your daily prayers this week:

### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>**

All involved in planning and leading Family services. Christian Aid and its annual collection in May and the projects it supports. Local prisons and their chaplains: Downview and High Down. Those living and working in Upper High Street, Victoria Place, Warren Hill and Waterloo Road.

### **Monday 28<sup>th</sup>**

All who are bereaved and grieving, and local funeral directors. Our young people and teenagers – our vision for the future. USPG (United Society Partners in the Gospel). Those living and working in Westgate Close, Wilmerhatch Lane and Wimborne Close.

### **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup>**

All parents and toddlers. Users of Langley Vale Village Hall: Sean Porter. Care and nursing homes in the Parish. Those in sheltered housing. Those living and working in Woodcote Close, Woodcote End, Woodcote Green Road, Woodcote Hurst, Woodcote Park Road and Woodcote Side.

### **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup>**

Epsom College, staff and students: Chaplain Andrew Haviland. May all who enter our churches find peace and welcome. Epsom & Ewell Foodbank (Our Missions) and the Leprosy Mission. Those living and working in Wootton Close, Worple Road, yeths Mews, Wyeths Road, Yeomanry Close and Yew Tree Gardens.

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup>**

May the choirs who give concerts at St Martin's and their audiences feel God's presence in our church. Those in our church family who now live elsewhere. Our borough libraries: their librarians, volunteers and those who use them. All who attend our churches and live in roads outside the Parish boundary.

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup>**

Our Vicar: Nick Parish, Yvonne and their family. Our Bishops: Andrew Watson and Paul Davies. The Chaplaincy Team at Epsom & St Helier Hospitals. Those living and working in Adelphi Road, Albert Road, Alexandra Road and Andrews Close.

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Our Curate: Judith Mitchell and her family. Our Archdeacon: Martin Breadmore and the Guildford Diocesan Staff. Our Missions: The Medaille Trust fighting against modern slavery. Those living and working in Ash Mews, Ashdown Road, Ashley Road, Aston Way, Avenue Road and Axwood.

## FOODBANK REQUESTS

Cooking Sauces, Pasta Sauce  
Dried Pasta in Sauce  
Tinned Vegetables - **Urgent**  
Tinned Fruit  
Tinned Meat  
Tinned Fish  
Tinned Tomatoes  
Microwave Rice - **Urgent**  
Instant Coffee - **Urgent**  
Ketchup/Mayonnaise/Brown Sauce  
Squash  
Long Life Juice  
Porridge  
Jam/Honey/Marmalade/Chocolate Spread/ Peanut Butter -  
**Urgent**  
Long life Sponge puddings - **Urgent**  
Custard - **Urgent**  
Rice Pudding  
Chocolate - **Urgent**  
Chocolate Biscuit Bars- **Urgent**  
Biscuits - **Urgent**  
Crisps  
Male Deodorant - **Urgent**  
Kids toothpaste **0-2 years old only**  
Toilet rolls - **Urgent**  
Washing powder/ tablets - **Urgent**  
Washing up Liquid – **Urgent**  
Nappies size 5

## THE POWER OF POETRY – JULY

It is summer, so as a change from more serious poetry, I have chosen a lighter one by John Betjeman (1906-1984).

I expect many of you will remember him from the sixties and seventies when he was frequently on television, though he was a prolific broadcaster from the thirties. He became Poet Laureate in 1972, and was a rarity among poets for being commercially successful and popular (except with the people of Slough perhaps).

He is renowned for his dislike of modern architecture, particularly when it involved sweeping away something more beautiful or interesting. He was instrumental in saving St Pancras Station but he was equally keen to record his horror of the modern taste for removal of high-backed oak settles or stuffed fish in glass cases from pubs, or for the increase in identical poorly-built houses disfiguring the landscape – he had an acute eye also for the people who inhabited them. (See too *Hymn* “The Church’s Restoration in 1883 has left for contemplation not what there used to be...”). He appreciated landscape of all sorts, writing the Shell Guides with artist John Piper. He wrote poems about Cornwall, the suburbs, Margate, Ireland, Henley-on-Thames, Essex and many other places.

I suppose the ability to notice, to absorb and then to set down those impressions in apposite words which convey not just the appearance but the scents and sounds, and intangibles, of a place is an indication of a poet rather than an ordinary observer. For instance:

### Trebertheric

We used to picnic where the thrift  
Grew deep and tufted to the edge;  
We saw the yellow foam-flakes drift  
In trembling sponges on the ledge.

### Upper Lambourne

Up the ash tree climbs the ivy,  
Up the ivy climbs the sun,  
With a twenty-thousand pattering  
Has a valley breeze begun.  
Feathery ash, neglected elder,  
Shift the shade and make it run.

### Croydon

The laurels are speckled in Marchmont Avenue  
Just as they were before;  
But the steps are dusty that still lead up to  
Your Uncle Dick's front door.

Betjeman is also a poet of things ecclesiastical, including the church buildings themselves, but this is a topic for another day.

The poem selected is *East Anglian Bathe*. Anyone who as a child holidayed on the coast of Britain before the advent of package holidays will probably recall similar scenes – the ‘bent grass on the leeseide’, the ‘tumbled breaker-line’, or as they paddled the ‘intersecting wavelets morning cold’. Our memories may not be so poetic, but I’m sure we can relate to his. I remember sheltering behind a Brighton breakwater from the cold wind, eating a faintly gritty sandwich (perhaps the true origin of the word sandwich, and

not the eponymous Lord after all!), the iciness of the water, the sharpness of the shingle..... Anyway, here is the poem:

Oh when the early morning at the seaside  
Took us with hurrying steps from Horsey Mere  
To see the whistling bent-grass on the leaside  
And then the tumbled breaker-line appear,  
On high, the clouds with mighty adumbration  
Sailed over us to seaward fast and clear  
And jellyfish in quivering isolation  
Lay silted in the dry sand of the breeze  
And we, along the table-land of beach blown  
Went gooseflesh from our shoulders to our knees  
And ran to catch the football, each to each thrown,  
In the soft and swirling music of the seas.

There splashed about our ankles as we waded  
These intersecting wavelets morning-cold,  
And sudden dark a patch of sea was shaded,  
And sudden light, another patch would hold  
The warmth of whirling atoms in a sun-shot  
And underwater sandstorm green and gold.  
So in we dived and louder than a gunshot  
Sea-water broke in fountains down the ear.  
How cold the bathe, how chattering cold the drying,  
How welcoming the inland reeds appear,  
The wood-smoke and the breakfast and the frying,  
And your warm freshwater ripples, Horsey Mere.

***Mary Gilbert***

# Project 200

Enabling St Martin's to embrace the future

## Two ways to support us

**Short term:** Make a donation beginning with a '2' to help us upgrade and enclose the Lady Chapel, so we can create a warm space without heating the whole building



**Longer term:** How might St Martin's look in the future? Share your ideas with us for how our historic building can continue to witness to God in the years to come

To donate, scan the QR code  
or go to our website  
[www.stmartinsepsom.org/project200](http://www.stmartinsepsom.org/project200)



**St Martin of Tours**

Church Street, Epsom, KT17 4PX

📱 [stmartinsepsom](https://www.stmartinsepsom.org) • [office@stmartinsepsom.org](mailto:office@stmartinsepsom.org) • [www.stmartinsepsom.org](http://www.stmartinsepsom.org) • 01372 722 567



Saint  
Columba's  
House



# OPEN DAYS AT ST COLUMBA'S

## A WARM WELCOME AWAITS!

Join us this summer for two special Open Days at St Columba's House, one of Woking's most peaceful and welcoming spaces. Feel free to drop in and say 'hi'.

## THINGS TO DO:

- ✓ explore the house and gardens
- ✓ enjoy a drink from the coffee truck
- ✓ take a guided tour of the building
- ✓ walk the garden labyrinth
- ✓ visit the art exhibition
- ✓ spend a quiet moment in our Oratory

## WHEN?

**TUESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> & WEDNESDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY**  
**11AM - 3PM**

## CONTACT US NOW

- ☎ 01483 766498
- ✉ [admin@stcolumbashouse.org.uk](mailto:admin@stcolumbashouse.org.uk)
- 🌐 [www.stcolumbashouse.org.uk](http://www.stcolumbashouse.org.uk)
- 🏠 Maybury Hill, Woking, Surrey GU22 8AB



Coffee



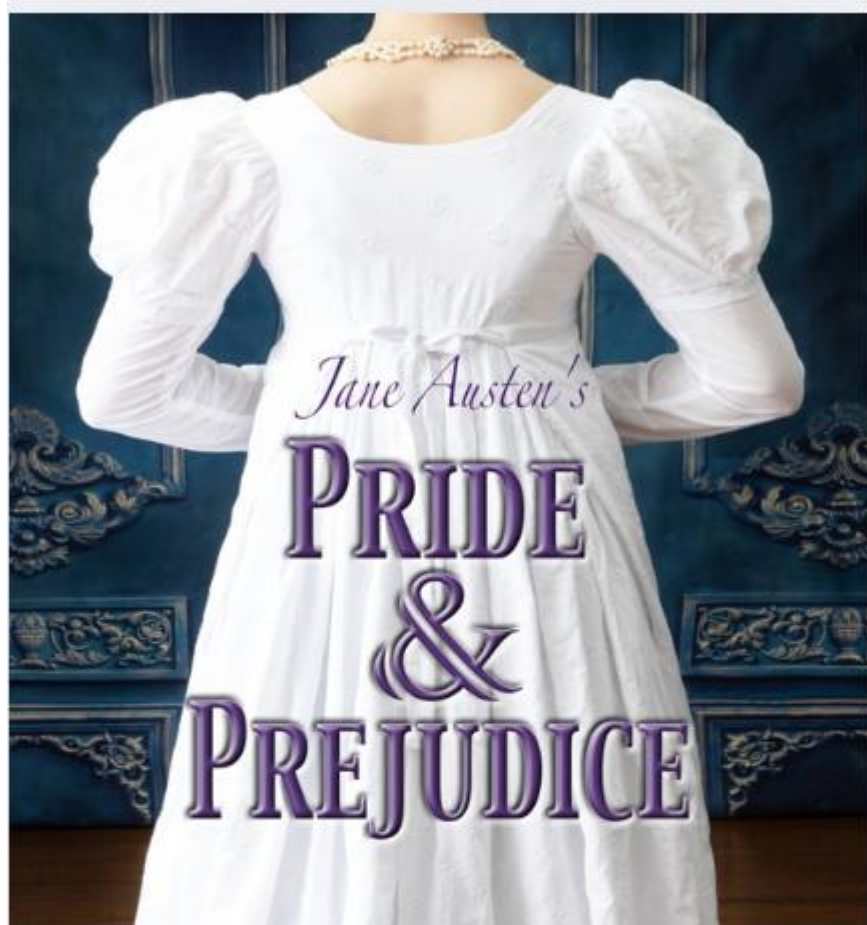
Activities



Tours



St Columba's House is wholly owned by St Peter's Charity, a registered charity in England and Wales number 1177879 and a company limited by guarantee registered in England number 11142467



**Saturday 13 September 7.30pm**



**Tickets**

**£16 Adult**

**£12 Concessions**

**[thisismytheatre.com](http://thisismytheatre.com)**

**07732 253311**

**St Martin  
of Tours**

Church Street  
Epsom, KT17 4PX

**THIS MY  
THEATRE**

**f stmartinsepsom • [office@stmartinsepsom.org](mailto:office@stmartinsepsom.org) • [www.stmartinsepsom.org](http://www.stmartinsepsom.org) • 01372 722 567**

# PRIDE & PREJUDICE

Written by Jane Austen

Directed by Sarah Slator

Assistant Direction by Chloe Bond

Adapted by Ethan Taylor

Music by Simon Stallard

**"It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife."**

**This Summer, critically acclaimed theatre company This Is My Theatre brings Jane Austen's classic tale to life in a stunning one-act adaptation to celebrate the author's 250th anniversary year.**



Epsom's largest historical building

## **St Martin's Church**

is marking its own anniversary - the 200th of its Georgian nave. Together with this theatre production, other events over a weekend of celebration include a talk on Georgian food (uniting Jane Austen with clergyman James Woodforde), an exhibition and special services.

For more information  
[www.stmartinsepsom.org](http://www.stmartinsepsom.org)  
01372 722 567

St Martin's Church, Church Street  
Epsom KT17 4PX

**Submitting an item for the newsletter:  
Please ensure that all items are emailed to the office marked  
'For Newsletter' in the title by  
12 noon on Wednesday, to be included for that week.**

**Parish Office:  
The parish office is open from 9.30am – 12.30pm every  
Monday, Wednesday and Friday.  
Church House, Church Street, Epsom,  
KT17 4PX Phone: 01372 722567  
E-mail: [office@stmartinsepsom.org](mailto:office@stmartinsepsom.org)  
Website: [www.stmartinsepsom.org](http://www.stmartinsepsom.org)**

**If you would like to be added to our mailing list so that you  
receive the newsletter and orders of service weekly, please  
email the parish office. Please contact clergy and lay  
ministers via the office.**